HF Happenings

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp.

South African Radio League HF CW Contest

The aim of the HF CW Contest is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands. The CW Contest takes place from 13:00 to 16:30 UTC on Sunday 28 August 2016 with activity on 3 580 to 3 600 kHz, 7 040 to 7 060 kHz and 14 070 to 14 099 kHz.

You can participate as a Single Operator Single Band station, a Single Operator All Band station, a Multi Operator Single Band station or a Multi Operator All Band station. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete. The exchange is a RS report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. According to Rule 5.(c) of the General Rules states, "However, a multi-operator station transmitting on several bands simultaneously may at their discretion use separate number sequences for each band."

CW contacts count 2 points. Count two points for each area (see below) on each band and count 2 points for each station contacted on all three bands.

Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape
Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape
Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape
Area 4: ZS4 Free State
Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal
Area 6: ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West
Area 7: 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, ZS8 Marion Island
Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica
Area 9: DX

Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in the contest. Silent Keys Memorial Trophy CW - awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF CW Contest and the - awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF CW Contest.

Submit your log in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled "your call sign HF CW ," by 4 September 2016 by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za

Provisional Results of the SARL HF Phone Contest

The Contest Committee received 15 logs for the SARL HF Phone Contest.

1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 200 points
2nd Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 128 points
3rd Theo Bresler ZS6TVB, 120 points
4th Deon Fraser, ZS5DCF, 119 points
5th Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 118 points
6th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 107 points

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7th Woody Collett, ZS3WL, 99 points
8th Heather Holland, ZS5YH, and Max Bauckley, ZS6MAX, 80 points each
10th Pierre Holtzhausen, ZS6PJH, 67 points
11th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 46 points
12th Garth Wheeler, ZS5GMW, 44 points
13th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 39 points
14th Nic van Duffelen, ZR6AEZ, 34 points
15th Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 31 points

Provisional Results of the SARL YL Sprint

The Contest Committee received 8 logs and 1 check log for the SARL YL Sprint. Six YLs and 3 OMs submitted logs.

1st Colette Rundle, ZS2CR, 190 points
2nd Heather Holland, ZS5YH, 124 points
3rd Judy Pretorius, ZS6JDY, 108 points
4th Jocelyn Hallendorff, ZS6JKL, 102 points
5th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 59 points
6th Romeo Nardini, ZS6ARQ, 28 points
7th Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 22 points
8th Theuns Potgieter, ZS2EC, 11 points

Marjoke, ZS5V submitted a check log

Icom IC-7610, IC-R8600, IC-R30 and ID-51 PLUS2 models shown at Tokyo Ham Fair 2016

After an online teaser campaign featuring silhouettes of mystery radio models, the secret is out and Icom Inc. has shown the very first samples of the IC-7610, IC-R8600, IC-R30 and ID-51 PLUS2 to the public at the Tokyo Ham Fair 2016 (20 and 21 August 2016). Details are relatively scarce but here are the basic details we have so far on these models.

IC-7610 HF/50 MHz Transceiver (Base Station)

The IC-7610 is the successor to the IC-7600 and will be a dual-watch capable HF + 50 MHz 100 W base station with built-in antenna tuner. The LCD will be touch screen and you will be able to connect an external display.

IC-R8600 Wideband Receiver (Base Station)

The IC-R8600 replaces the IC-R8500 wideband receiver and will feature the technology incorporated into Icom's best selling IC-7300. The IC-R8600 will be able to receive a wide frequency range from 0,01 – 3 000 MHz frequency in analogue and various digital modes (D-STAR, P25, NXDN and dPMR). The IC-R8600 will feature a larger 10 cm touch screen display, which will feature fast moving spectrum scope and waterfall display.

IC-R30 Communications Receiver (Handheld)

The IC-R30 is the successor to the popular IC-R20 compact handheld receiver. The IC-R30 can listen to two signals under certain conditions (analogue + analogue or analogue + digital). The IC-R30 will be able to decode D-STAR, P25, NXDN and dPMR digital (conventional) modes.

ID-51 PLUS2 Dual Band D-STAR Digital Transceiver (Handheld)

The ID-51 PLUS2 hand portable is a special edition model, which will come in several colours/patterns. The new 'Terminal Mode' and 'Access Point Modes' enable you to make D-STAR calls through the Internet, even from areas where no D-STAR repeater is accessible.

More details will be available nearer to each product's launch. There are currently no details about pricing and availability.

60 and 630 – New Bands for Latvia

Latvian amateurs have two new bands following the introduction of their new amateur radio licence on 9 August 2016.

Access has been allowed to the new WRC-15 60 m /5 MHz allocation 5 351.5 – 5 366.5 kHz - with a power of 15 W EIRP. 472 – 479 kHz (630 m) has also become available with a power of 1 W EIRP. Both bands are subject to a narrow transmit bandwidth of 800 Hz and are permitted to Category A (i.e. top level) licence holders only.

The Latvian government gazette notice giving new licence details (in Latvian) can be found at www.vestnesis.lv/op/2016/155.3.

Scroll down to Annex 1 for the Category A Class frequency table.

Controlling your K3

There is a new release of the Win4K3Suite http://va2fsq.com/, software dedicated to the control of your K3 series of transceivers from your Microsoft Windows computer. Win4K3Suite provides a software panadapter using SDRPlay (showing up to 1,8 MHz bandwidth), LP-PAN, or a video capture board for the P3. This new release has improved SDRPlay performance and fixes an issue with the Elecraft Frequency Memory Editor files.

Amateur Radio Resources that Save Space

Steve, K6OIK, as part of a presentation to the Foothills Amateur Radio Society www.fars.k6ya.org/, has prepared a paper entitled "Amateur Radio Resources that Save Space" www.fars.k6ya.org/docs/k6oik. His secret is to store radio-related books, articles, papers, and so on electronically, or take advantage of resources available online. He also updated a list of radio-useful software on the club's website www.fars.k6ya.org/others.

Word to the Wise

Prosign - Accepted as short for "**Proc**edural **Sig**nal": In CW, a sequence of dots and dashes that are used to convey a particular meaning about the communication itself, such as end of transmission, "**SK**," over, "**K**", or wait, "**AS**". They are written as the concatenation of one or more regular characters sent or received with no intervening spaces. In contests, you might hear the "**AS**" prosign being sent by an operator when she cannot yet log a contact due to a rebooting computer or other problem.

Operating Tip - Call Again Later

Dennis, N6KI, suggests that when running, when you cannot copy a station despite multiple attempts, do not just abandon them by just calling CQ. Dennis suggests saying "I can't copy you well right now, please call again later, or if my signal fades up." He wants that station to know they are very important to him and not just dismiss them with a "Sorry, no copy.... CQ Contest!" He finds that most will come back due to that courtesy. "This technique could really pay off when you are winning contests by a small margin of QSOs."

Free online book

Jim, KA2RVO, via the Elecraft mailing list, suggested the free online book Signal Processing For Communications http://www.signalprocessingforcommunications.org/. I skimmed the introductory chapters, and it is interesting enough to add to my reading list, in my case as a potential good review of the mathematical underpinnings for DSP and how they relate to practical real-world characteristics of communications channels. The book builds on the theory intro-

August

4 to 6 - !Naba Food and Wine Festival Upington
6 – Thabazimbi Apiesdoring Carnival
7 – SARL HF Phone Contest
9 – National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint
12 to 14 – West Coast Craft Festival, Velddrif
14 – SARL Youth Net
20 and 21 – International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
21 – SARL HF Digital Contest
23 - Closing date for September Radio ZS articles
26 and 27 – Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia
28 – SARL HF CW Contest

September

3 – West Rand Flea Market
10 and 11 – SARL National Field Day
11 – SARL Youth Net
16 – World Ozone Day
17 and 18 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest; All Africa DX Contest
22 - Spring Equinox
24 – National Braai Day and Heritage Day
24 and 25 - CQ WW RTTY Contest
26 – Closing date for October Radio ZS
27 – World Tourism Day
30 – All schools close

duced in early chapters to ultimately discuss the design of a modem that provides 2400 baud communications over a telephone-grade channel.

Lithium ion batteries

If you would like maximum life from your lithium ion batteries, charge them slowly and try not to continually charge them, according to this article in the New York Times http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/22/technology/personaltech/charge-phone-overnight.html?ref=technology.

African DX

Africa DX Net - every Saturday afternoon from 14:00 UTC on 14,260 MHz hosted by Mike, V51MA, Leon, A25SL, and Tinus, ZS6MHK.

Lesotho, 7P. Gordon, K7TRB, says, "I'll be in Maseru, Lesotho in September and October 2016. I plan to operate 50% SSB and 50% PSK 31 and experiment with other digital modes using the call 7P8VA. QSL via home call."

Rwanda, 9X. Jim KB1ZSQ will be active from Rwanda until 30 December 2017 as 9X0JW. He will operate on 80 to 10 m, SSB and digital modes. QSL via eQSL.

Tanzania, 5H. Chas, NK8O/VE3ISD, will once again be active as 5H3DX from Zinga, Tanzania, between 20 October and 12 November. Activity will be from the paediatric hospital at Zinga. Usual operations will be holiday style. Power output will be the legal limit for Tanzania at 100 w and the primary antenna should be a Hexbeam configured for 20 to 6 metres, including the WARC bands. Operations will be primarily CW. He states that he will use a simple wire antenna and his KX3 with a KXPA100 amp. QSL via EA7FTR, LoTW and eQSL.

Lesotho, 7P (Press Release, date 18 August) [edited]. Pista, HA5AO, will operate as 7P8AO from Lesotho between 15 and 29 October. The primary purpose of the trip is to deliver humanitarian aid and support to an orphanage. At his own expense, Pista is supplying clothing, shoes and school supplies to the children. This will be his third visit to Lesotho to work with the children. When not at the orphanage, Pista will be operating mainly CW, on 80 to 6 metres. Log search and OQRS will be available on www.ha5ao.com. Please QSL to HA5AO.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies
CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Cape Verde, D44. Ralf, DK8FA, will once again be active as D44TUJ from Boa Vista Island (AF-086) between 15 to 29 September. Activity will be mainly on 20 meters using the Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. No eQSL, No LoTW!

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 22 to 29 August 2016

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 24 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 25 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 27 August 2016
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, SSB
19:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 August
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: 100 W; 10 W
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 1 September 2016
Upload log at: www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/rsprint.shtml

QRP Fox Hunt
01:00 - 02:30 UTC 26 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 20 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 27 August 2016
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 26 August
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 28 August 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 26 August
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 28 August 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

Hawaii QSO Party
04:00 UTC 27 August to 04:00 UTC 29 August
Mode: CW, Phone, RTTY, PSK
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Technician – CW and SSB (200 W); Single Op CW – low or high; Single Op Digital High Power; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi
Max operating hours: Single Op: 18
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts CW/RTTY/PSK, 10 watts SSB
Exchange: HI: RS(T) and QTH ID; non-HI W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T)
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: HI: Each HI QTH ID once; HI: Each state, province, territory and country once; non-HI: Each HI QTH ID once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 1 October 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://hawaiiqsoparty.org/LogUploads/Upload.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.hiqsoparty.org/Rules/HQP/HQPRules.html

ALARA Contest
06:00 UTC Aug 27 to 05:59 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: ALARA: RS(T)A and name; non-ALARA: RS(T), serial no, name and whether YL, OM or club station
Work stations: Once per 60 minutes per band per mode
QSO Points: 5 points per phone QSO with ALARA member; 4 points per phone QSO with YL non-member; 3 points per phone QSO with OM; Double points per QSO for CW
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 30 September 2016
E-mail logs to: alaracontest@wia.org.au
Mail logs to: Mrs. Diane Main, VK4DI, PO Box 546, Gatton Qld 4343, Australia

Find rules at:
http://www.alara.org.au/contests/

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest
12:00 UTC 27 August to 12:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op Multiband; Single Op Single Band (JA Only); SWL
Exchange: JA: RST and prefecture/district code; non-JA: RST and continent code
QSO Points: JA Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station; JA Station: 5 points per QSO with DX station; DX Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station
Multipliers: Each JA prefecture once per band; JA Station: Each continent once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 29 September 2016
E-mail logs to: 2016kcjtest@kcj–cw.com
Mail logs to: T. Mori, JH6IEK, Saida 556-36, Tamamura machi, Sawa gun, Gunma 370-1131, Japan
Find rules at: www.kcj-cw.com/contest/16_kcj_contest_rule_e.pdf

SCC RTTY Championship: 12:00 UTC 27 August to 11:59 UTC 28 August
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts
Exchange: RST and 4-digit year license first issued
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with same continent, different country; 2 points per QSO between different W, VE, VK, ZL, ZS, JA and PY call areas, LU provinces and Asiatic Russia UA9/UA0 oblasts; 3 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each 4-digit year licensed once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 5 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://lea.hamradio.si/scc/rtty/rtty_log_submission.htm
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://lea.hamradio.si/scc/rtty/rttyrules.htm

W/VE Islands QSO Party
12:00 UTC 27 August to 03:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: W/VE Island Permanent - QRP or QRO; W/VE Island Expedition - QRP or QRO; W/VE Island Rover - QRP or QRO; Non-Island W/VE - QRP or QRO
Max power: QRO: >5 W; QRP: 5 W
Exchange: Islands: RS(T) and USI/CISA Island Designation; Non-Islands: RS(T) and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per mode per band
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 15 September 2016
E-mail logs to: ns4j@usislands.org
Mail logs to: Jay Chamberlain NS4J, 27 Fox Run Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22405, USA
Find rules at:
http://usislands.org/2016_contest_rules.html

YO DX HF Contest
12:00 UTC 27 August to 12:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band – CW, SSB or mixed – high or low; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op Single Transmitter; Youngster or novice (<16 y)
Max power: High: >100 W; Low: 100 W or less
Exchange: YO: RS(T) and county; non-YO: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 8 points per QSO with YO station; 4 points per QSO with non-YO station on different continent; 2 points per QSO with non-YO station in different country, same continent; 1 point per QSO with non-YO station in same country
Multipliers: Each DXCC country (not YO) once per band; Each YO county once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 27 September 2016
E-mail logs to: yodx-contest@hamradio.ro
Mail logs to: FRR, PO Box 22-50, Bucharest RO-014780, Romania
Find rules at: www.yodx.ro/en/english

Kansas QSO Party
14:00 UTC 27 August to 02:00 UTC 28 August and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op; School; Mobile Single Op – CW or mixed - low power; Mobile Multi-Op Single Radio low power; Mobile Unlimited; Mobile Unassisted low power; Mobile SSB low power
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: KS: RS(T) and county non-KS: RS(T) and state, VE section or DX
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 3 points per CW/digital QSO; Bonus: 100 points for at least one QSO with KS0KS
Multipliers: KS: Each US state, VE section and "DX" once; non-KS: Each KS county once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and Bonus Points
Submit logs by: 1 October 2016
E-mail logs to: logs@ksqsoparty.org
Mail logs to: Kansas QSO Party, c/o Bob Harder, W0BH, Box 3000, Hesston, KS 67062, USA
Find rules at:
http://ksqsoparty.org/rules/KSQPRules2016.pdf

Ohio QSO Party
16:00 UTC 27 August to 04:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op – high, low or QRP; Multi-Op; EOC; Mobile; Rover
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: OH: RS(T) and county; non-OH: RS(T) and state, province or DX
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Multipliers: OH Stations: Each state, province, OH county, 1 DX once per mode; non-OH Stations: Each OH county once per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults (see rules for mobile stations)
Submit logs by: 26 September 2016
Upload log at:
www.ohqp.org/submitLogFileOhQP.html
Mail logs to: Ohio QSO Party, c/o Jim Stahl, K8MR, 30499 Jackson Rd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-1730, USA
Find rules at: www.ohqp.org/adminRules.htm

CVA SSB DX Contest
21:00 UTC 27 August to 21:00 UTC 28 August
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Two; Headquarters; Teen Single Op; YL Single Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RS and type/UF (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each UF once per band; Each country once only
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 September 2016
E-mail logs to: ssb@craec.org
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.craec.org

SARL HF CW Contest
13:00 – 16:30 UTC 28 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band; Multi-Op Single Band
Exchange: RST and serial no
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 4 September 2016
E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@mweb.co.za
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.sarl.org.za/Web3/Members/DoDocDownload.aspx?X=20151130131559djqp8afPgb.PDF

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 31 August
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 2 September 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 31 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 1 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 3 September 2016
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest
17:00 - 18:00 UTC (CW) and 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB) and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 1 September (Dig)

Mode: CW, SSB, FM, Digital
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS(T) and 6-character grid square
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 15 September 2016
Upload log at:
http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html

Next Week's Contests

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 2 September
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 2 September
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 September
G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest, 23:00 UTC 2 September to 23:00 UTC 4 September
CWOps CW Open, 00:00 - 03:59 UTC, 12:00 - 15:59 UTC and 20:00 - 23:59 UTC 3 September
All Asian DX Phone Contest, 00:00 UTC 3 September to 24:00 UTC 4 September
Russian RTTY WW Contest, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 3 September
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint, 06:00 - 06:29 UTC, 06:30 - 06:59 UTC, 07:00 – 07:29 UTC and 07:30 – 08:00 UTC 3 September
AGCW Straight Key Party, 13:00 – 16:00 UTC 3 September
Colorado QSO Party, 13:00 UTC 3 September to 04:00 UTC 4 September
IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day, 13:00 UTC 3 September to 12:59 UTC 4 September
RSGB SSB Field Day, 13:00 UTC 3 September to 13:00 UTC 4 September
PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80 m Sprint, 20:00 UTC 3 September to 20:00 UTC 4 September
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest, 11:00 - 17:00 UTC 4 September
Tennessee QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 4 September to 03:00 UTC 5 September
MI QRP Labour Day CW Sprint, 23:00 UTC 5 September to 03:00 UTC 6 September
ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 6 September
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 September
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 7 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 8 September
UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 7 September
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 9 September
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 9 September

VHF Happenings

Mauritius, 3B8 (6 m Op!)

Bernie, ZS4TX, will be active as 3B8TX from the northwest coast of Mauritius [LG89sx] between 16 and 19 September, as part of a short visit to the island and a 6 m EME DXpedition. The call sign 3B8TX was allocated by ICTA. Bernie states, "Mauritius is not rare in Europe on 6 m. My operation will favour NA/SA moonrise and ZL/VK moonset. Please send me an E-mail for any special time/sked that may not be covered in the proposed time frames. I will also be running a beacon during the daytime looking for possible Tropo openings towards Africa." Equipment: IC-7100 and 6M8GJ. QSL via LoTW (preferred) or direct to his home call sign.

UHF/VHF antenna comparison spreadsheets

VE7BQH maintains UHF/VHF antenna comparison spreadsheets. Recently they have been updated and uploaded to W7GJ's website www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/6mTable.htm. They are also available with an HTML view via dxmaps.com http://www.dxmaps.com/VE7BQH6.html. The tables include information on expected gain figures when stacking them in different common configurations.

Phase 4 "Five and Dime"

Back in February, AMSAT announced it is seeking volunteers www.arrl.org/news/amsat-seeks-volunteers-to-support-phase-4-five-and-dime-ground-terminal-effort to assist with the technical details and development of Phase 4 "Five and Dime" ground terminals www.amsat.org/?p=4945. The satellite will be using the 5 and 10 GHz bands, with an underlying digital transmission transport layer. The technical details are to be "open source," and the project's source files are kept on Github.

It's interesting to read the weekly progress reports in that portion of the repository https://github.com/phase4ground/documents/tree/master/Management/Weekly_Engineering_Reports, and some of the source code for various DSP receivers that will eventually be posted may find crossover application for controlling skimmer hardware.

EME Conference videos released

Videos of presentations given at the 17th International amateur radio EME conference, held in Venice between 19 and 21 August are now available. EME 2016 Schedule www.eme2016.org/index.php/25-2/

The videos include talks by Sam, G4DDK @DXING, Dave, G4HUP, Charlie, G3WDG, Alex, ZS6EME, and Joe Taylor, K1JT. Watch the videos on the YouTube channel of Giulio Pico, IW3HVB, at www.youtube.com/channel/UCFct56EA6F9lkqMBmydh5hw

Amateur Satellite Educational Videos

David Casler, KE0OG, has released a couple of videos, which aim to explain amateur radio satellites. They form part of his collection of training videos for the Amateur Radio Technician, General, and Extra exams.

This video introduces the orbital mechanics part of amateur satellites, including the concept of orbits, eccentricity, Keplerian elements, and definitions of key terms. These videos are updated for the 11th edition of the "ARRL Extra Class License Manual for Ham Radio."

Amateur Extra Lesson 2.3, Part 1, Amateur Satellites https://youtu.be/Ku9rf9Lwld4

The second half of the video discusses polarization, Faraday rotation, repeaters, transponders and band and mode designations. Note one error in which I refer to the X band as in the 10 MHz region when it should be 10 GHz.

Amateur Extra Section 2.3 Part 2, Amateur Satellites https://youtu.be/ebUeCKjAPFY

Thank you for watching my videos! My channel, "Ham Radio Answers," is here to help you become an active, on-the-air amateur radio operator! I am unique in that I provide the only set of YouTube training videos that accompany the ARRL license manuals, section for section. I try hard to answer every Ask Dave question individually if I can. www.youtube.com/user/davecasler

Next Week's Contests

WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone, 10:00 - 14:00 UTC 4 September

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter